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## ON GOOD ETOL FORMS

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**Abstract.** This paper continues the study of ETOL forms and good EOL forms done by Maurer, Salomaa and Wood. It is proven that binary very complete ETOL forms exist, good synchronized ETOL forms exist and that no propagating or synchronized ETOL form can be very complete.

### 1. Introduction

Maurer, Salomaa, and Wood introduced in [1] and [2] the notion of EOL and ETOL forms and their interpretations. An ETOL form  $F$  defines a family of ETOL systems  $\mathcal{G}(F)$  which are “structurally” similar and a family of languages  $\mathcal{L}(F)$ , namely those languages generated by systems in  $\mathcal{G}(F)$ . In [3] Maurer, Salomaa and Wood study good and complete EOL forms. Many of the theorems in [3] are trivially valid for ETOL forms as well as for EOL forms but they will not appear in this paper. In this paper we show that in contrast to what is the case for EOL forms, there exist good synchronized ETOL forms. Finally we show that (as for EOL forms) there exist binary vocomplete (short for very complete) ETOL forms and that no propagating or synchronized ETOL form is vocomplete.

### 2. Definitions and basic results

We follow the definitions of ETOL forms and interpretations given in [1], [2] and [3]. EOL forms will not be defined explicitly. We can consider an EOL form as an ETOL form with one table.

**Definition 2.1.** An ETOL system (or  $n$ -ETOL system) is an  $(n+3)$ -tuple  $G = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_n, S)$ , where  $n \geq 1$ ,  $V$  is an alphabet,  $\Sigma \subseteq V$  is the terminal alphabet,  $S \in V - \Sigma$  is the *start symbol*. For all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $P_i$  is a finite set of pairs  $(A, \alpha)$  with  $A \in V$  and  $\alpha \in V^*$  such that for each  $A \in V$  at least one such pair is in

$P_i$ . The elements  $(A, \alpha)$  are called *rules* or *productions* and are usually written  $A \xrightarrow{P_i} \alpha$  or just  $A \rightarrow \alpha$ . The sets  $P_i$  are called *tables*.

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $G = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_n, S)$  be an  $n$ -ETOL system. For words  $x = A_1 A_2 \dots A_m$  and  $y = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots \alpha_m$  with  $A_i \rightarrow \alpha_i$  in  $P_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and some  $P_i$  we write  $x \xRightarrow{P_i} y$  or  $x \Rightarrow y$ .  $\Rightarrow^+$  (and  $\Rightarrow^*$ ) are the transitive (and reflexive) closure of  $\Rightarrow$ . The language generated by  $G$  is

$$L(G) = \{x \in \Sigma^* : S \Rightarrow^* x\}.$$

Notice that in contrast to the usual definition of ETOL systems, the start symbol cannot be a terminal.

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $G = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_n, S)$  be an  $n$ -ETOL system. For a word  $x$ ,  $|x|$  denotes the length of  $x$  and  $\text{Alph}(x)$  denotes the minimal alphabet such that  $x \in \text{Alph}(x)^*$ . For all  $1 \leq i \leq n$  let  $\text{maxr}(P_i) = \max\{|\alpha| : A \rightarrow \alpha \text{ in } P_i\}$ , and let  $\text{maxr}(G) = \max\{\text{maxr}(P_i) : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . A symbol  $B \in V$  is *reachable* (from  $S$ ) if  $S \Rightarrow^* \alpha B \beta$  for some words  $\alpha, \beta \in V^*$ .  $G$  is *reduced* if each  $B \in V$  is reachable.  $G$  is *separated* if for all productions  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  in  $P_1, \dots, P_n$   $\alpha \in (V - \Sigma)^*$  if  $A \in \Sigma$  and  $\alpha \in \Sigma \cup (V - \Sigma)^*$  otherwise.  $G$  is *propagating* if for all productions  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  in  $P_1, \dots, P_n$   $\alpha \neq e$ , the empty word.  $G$  is *synchronized* if, for all  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $a \Rightarrow^+ \alpha$  implies  $\alpha \in \Sigma^*$ .  $G$  is *short*, if not for all  $P_i$ ,  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P_i$  implies  $|\alpha| \leq 2$ . Finally,  $G$  is *binary* if each rule in  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  is one of the forms  $A \rightarrow e$ ,  $A \rightarrow a$ ,  $A \rightarrow B$ ,  $A \rightarrow BC$ ,  $a \rightarrow A$ , where  $a \in \Sigma$  and  $A, B, C \in V - \Sigma$ .

**Definition 2.4.** An ETOL form (or  $n$ -ETOL form) is an ETOL system  $F = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_n, S)$ . An ETOL system  $G = (V', \Sigma', P'_1, \dots, P'_n, S')$  is an *interpretation of  $F(\text{mod } \mu)$* ,  $G \triangleleft F(\mu)$ , or simply  $G \triangleleft F$ , if  $\mu$  is a substitution defined on  $V$  satisfying (i)–(v):

- (i)  $\mu(A) \subseteq V' - \Sigma'$  for  $A \in V - \Sigma$ ,
- (ii)  $\mu(a) \subseteq \Sigma'$  for  $a \in \Sigma$ ,
- (iii)  $\mu(\alpha) \cap \mu(\beta) = \emptyset$  for any symbols  $\alpha \neq \beta$ ,
- (iv) for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $P'_i \subseteq \mu(P_i)$ , where

$$\mu(P_i) = \{(A', \alpha') \in V' \times V'^* : A' \in \mu(A), \alpha' \in \mu(\alpha)\}$$

for some  $A \in V, \alpha \in V^*$  such that  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P_i\}$ .

- (v)  $S' \in \mu(S)$ .

The family of ETOL systems generated by  $F$ , denoted  $\mathcal{G}(F)$ , is:

$$\mathcal{G}(F) = \{G : G \triangleleft F\}.$$

The family of languages generated by  $F$ , denoted  $\mathcal{L}(F)$ , is:

$$\mathcal{L}(F) = \{L(G) : G \in \mathcal{G}(F)\}.$$

Since an ETOL form is an ETOL system, and conversely, we will allow ourselves to use the term "form" in the rest of this paper.

**Definition 2.5.** Two ETOL forms  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are *equivalent* if  $L(F_1) = L(F_2)$  and *form equivalent* if  $\mathcal{L}(F_1) = \mathcal{L}(F_2)$ .

The following lemmata are either contained in [2] or are a slight modification of some in [2].

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $F = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_m, S)$  be an ETOL form and  $F' = (V', \Sigma', P'_1, \dots, P'_m, S')$   $\triangleleft F(\mu)$ . Then for each derivation

$$x_0 \xRightarrow{P'_{i1}} x_1 \xRightarrow{P'_{i2}} \dots \xRightarrow{P'_{ik}} x_k \quad \text{in } F',$$

$\mu^{-1}(x_0) \xRightarrow{P_{i1}} \mu^{-1}(x_1) \xRightarrow{P_{i2}} \dots \xRightarrow{P_{ik}} \mu^{-1}(x_k)$  is a derivation in  $F$ .

**Lemma 2.7.** For all ETOL forms  $F$  a form equivalent reduced ETOL form  $F'$  can be constructed.

Because of this lemma we will always assume the forms in this paper to be reduced.

**Lemma 2.8.** Let  $F = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_m, S)$  and  $\bar{F} = (V \cup \bar{V}, \Sigma, \bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_m, S)$  with  $V \cap \bar{V} = \emptyset$ . If there are integers  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m$ , such that (a) holds if and only if (b) holds for some  $i$ , then  $\mathcal{L}(F) = \mathcal{L}(\bar{F})$ .

(a)  $A \in V, A \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i1}} x_1 \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i2}} x_2 \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i3}} \dots \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{it}} x_t, x_i \in V^*, \text{ and } x_j \in V^* \text{ for } 1 \leq j < t$ .

(b)  $t = k_i, i_1 = i_2 = \dots = i_t = i, A \rightarrow x_t \text{ in } P_i, x_j \in \bar{V}^+ \text{ for } 1 \leq j < t, A \rightarrow x_1 \text{ in } \bar{P}_i, \text{ and } x_{j-1} \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_i} x_j \text{ for } 1 < j \leq t$ .

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $F$  be an ETOL form and  $\mathcal{F}$  a family of languages. We call  $F$   $\mathcal{F}$ -complete or complete for  $\mathcal{F}$  if  $\mathcal{L}(F) = \mathcal{F}$ ; if  $\mathcal{F}$  is the family of ETOL languages, then we simply call  $F$  complete instead of ETOL-complete. We call  $F$  good, if for each ETOL form  $\bar{F}$  with  $\mathcal{L}(\bar{F}) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(F)$  and ETOL form  $F'$  exists such that  $F' \triangleleft F$  and  $\mathcal{L}(F') = \mathcal{L}(\bar{F})$ .  $F$  is called bad if it is not good.  $F$  is called complete (short for very complete) if it is complete and good.

### 3. Results

Most of the theorems on good EOL forms in [3] are easily shown to be valid for ETOL forms as well. Properties which are different for EOL and ETOL forms are related to synchronization. There are two "canonical" ways to synchronize an ETOL form. The first is to introduce a marked version of the terminals and make these new nonterminals and then change the productions by marking the terminals and add  $a' \rightarrow a$ ,  $a \rightarrow N$ ,  $N \rightarrow N$  to all tables for all terminals  $a$ .  $N$  is a new nonterminal. The second, which has no counterpart in the EOL case, is to add a new table consisting of the productions  $a' \rightarrow a$ ,  $a \rightarrow N$ ,  $N \rightarrow N$ ,  $A \rightarrow N$  for terminals  $a$  and nonterminals  $A$ .  $a \rightarrow N$ ,  $N \rightarrow N$  is added to the rest of tables. The following lemma and theorem show different properties for synchronized EOL and ETOL forms.

**Lemma 3.1.** *The synchronized ETOL form*

$$F = (\{S, a, N\}, \{a\}, \{S \rightarrow SS; a \rightarrow N; N \rightarrow N\}, \{S \rightarrow a; a \rightarrow N; N \rightarrow N\}, S)$$

*generates no nonempty finite languages.*

**Proof.** Immediate.  $\square$

All synchronized EOL forms generating nonempty languages generate finite nonempty languages. This is used to prove that no good synchronized EOL form exists [3, Theorem 2.6]. The following theorem shows that good synchronized ETOL forms exist. Surprisingly enough the form shown to exist generates finite languages only!

**Theorem 3.2.** *The synchronized ETOL form*

$$F = (\{S, a, N\}, \{a\}, \{S \rightarrow S; a \rightarrow N; N \rightarrow N\}, \{S \rightarrow a; a \rightarrow N; N \rightarrow N\}, S)$$

*is good.*

**Proof.**  $\mathcal{L}(F)$  consists of all nonempty finite languages consisting of single letter words. Let  $F'$  be an arbitrary ETOL form such that  $\mathcal{L}(F') \subseteq \mathcal{L}(F)$ . Assume  $L(F') = \Sigma = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  and let  $\mathcal{D}_{F'}$  denote the family of languages  $\mathcal{D}_{F'} = \{L(G) : G \triangleleft F'(\mu), \mu(a) = \{a\} \text{ for all } a \in \Sigma\}$ . Since the languages in  $\mathcal{L}(F')$  consist of singletons  $\mathcal{L}(F')$  can be characterized by:

$$L \in \mathcal{L}(F')$$

if and only if there exist  $\eta \in \mathcal{D}_{F'}$  and finite substitution  $\mu$  on  $\eta$  such that

- (1)  $\mu(a) \neq \emptyset$  for all  $a$  in  $\eta$ ,
- (2)  $\mu(a) \cap \mu(b) = \emptyset$  for all  $a \neq b$  in  $\eta$ , and
- (3)  $L \bigcup_{a \in \eta} \mu(a)$ .

Because of this characterization it suffices to show that there exists an interpretation  $\bar{F}$  of  $F$  such that the corresponding  $\mathcal{D}_{\bar{F}}$  equals  $\mathcal{D}_{F'}$ . Let  $K = \bigcap_{\eta \in \mathcal{D}_{F'}} \eta$ .  $K$  denotes the set of symbols in  $\Sigma$ , which occur in all languages of  $\mathcal{D}_{F'}$ . Let  $R$  be the relation on  $\Sigma$  defined as follows:  $(a, b) \in R$  if and only if for all  $\eta \in \mathcal{D}_{F'}$  and  $a \in \eta$  imply  $b \in \eta$ . Define  $\bar{R}(a)$ , for  $a \in \Sigma$ , to be the smallest set  $Q$  such that  $a \in Q$ , and  $(b, c) \in R$  and  $b \in Q$  imply  $c \in Q$ . Let  $\bar{R}(M)$ , for  $M \subseteq \Sigma$ , denote  $\bigcup_{a \in M} \bar{R}(a)$ .

$\mathcal{D}_{F'}$  can then be characterized by:

$$\eta \in \mathcal{D}_{F'} \text{ if and only if } K \subseteq \eta \text{ and } \bar{R}(\eta) = \eta.$$

Without loss of generality we can assume that  $K = \{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$  for some  $k \leq n$ . Finally let  $\bar{R}(a_i) = \{a_i^{(1)}, a_i^{(2)}, \dots, a_i^{(k_i)}\}$  with  $a_i = a_i^{(1)}$ . Note that  $\bar{R}(K) = K$ .

Construct the ETOL form  $\bar{F} = (V, \Sigma, P_1, P_2, S_1) \triangleleft F(\mu)$  as follows:

- (i)  $V = \Sigma \cup \{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k\} \cup \{N\} \cup \bigcup_{k \leq i \leq n} \{S_i^{(1)}, S_i^{(2)}, \dots, S_i^{(k_i)}\}$ .
- (ii)  $P_1$ :  
 $S_i \rightarrow S_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i < k$ ,  
 $S_k \rightarrow S_1 | S_{k+1}^{(1)} | S_{k+2}^{(1)} | \dots | S_n^{(1)}$ ,  
 $S_i^{(j)} \rightarrow S_i^{(j+1)}$  for  $k < i \leq n$  and  $1 \leq j < k_i$ ,  
 $S_i^{(k_i)} \rightarrow S_1$  for  $k < i \leq n$ ,  
 $a_i \rightarrow N$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  
 $N \rightarrow N$ .
- (iii)  $P_2$ :  
 $S_i \rightarrow a_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  
 $S_i^{(j)} \rightarrow a_i^{(j)}$  for  $k < i \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k_i$ ,  
 $a_i \rightarrow N$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  
 $N \rightarrow N$ .
- (iv) For all  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $\mu(a) = \{a\}$ .  
 $\mu(S) = V - \Sigma$ .

From the construction of  $\bar{F}$  it follows that if we define  $\mathcal{D}_{\bar{F}} = \{L(G), G \triangleleft \bar{F}(\mu), \mu(a) = \{a\} \text{ for } a \in \Sigma\}$  then  $\mathcal{D}_{\bar{F}} = \mathcal{D}_{F'}$  and therefore  $\mathcal{L}(\bar{F}) = \mathcal{L}(F')$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** *If  $F$  is an ETOL form generating a nonempty finite language consisting of single letter words only, then there exists an integer  $k$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(F)$  equals the family of all finite languages of size at least  $k$  and consisting of single letter words only.*

Although there exist good synchronized ETOL forms the following shows that no synchronized ETOL form is complete.

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $F = (\{S, a\}, \{a\}, \{S \rightarrow a; a \rightarrow aa\}, S)$ . Then no synchronized ETOL form  $F'$  is form equivalent to  $F$ .*

**Proof.** Assume that  $F'$  is an arbitrary synchronized ETOL form and that  $\bar{F} = (\bar{V}, \{a\}, \bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_m, \bar{S}) \triangleleft F'$  with  $L(\bar{F}) = L(F)$  and let

$$\bar{S} \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i_1}} x_1 \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i_2}} \dots \xRightarrow{\bar{P}_{i_q}} x_q = a^4$$



**Proof**  $F$  in Lemma 3.7 is an EOL form.  $\square$

To prove completeness in the EOL case, we have to show that for an arbitrary EOL form we can reduce the length of the right-hand sides of the productions below a certain limit without changing the family of languages generated. For ETOL forms we have to be able to reduce the number of tables as well. The next theorem shows that this is indeed possible. Similar theorems are proven in [2] for synchronized ETOL forms.

**Theorem 3.11.** *Given an ETOL form  $F$ , a form equivalent 2-ETOL form  $F'$  can be constructed.*

**Proof.** Let  $F = (\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}, \{A_1, \dots, A_t\}, P_1, \dots, P_m, A_n)$ . We construct a form equivalent 2-ETOL form  $F' = (V, \{A_1, \dots, A_t\}, P'_1, P'_2, A_n)$  as follows:

(i)  $V = \{A_1, \dots, A_n\} \cup \{A_i[j] : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\} \cup \{N\}$ .

(ii)  $P'_1$  consists of the productions:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A_i \rightarrow A_i[1], \\ A_i[j] \rightarrow A_i[j+1], 1 \leq j < m, \\ A_i[m] \rightarrow N, \\ N \rightarrow N. \end{array} \right\} 1 \leq i \leq n,$$

(iii)  $P'_2$  consists of the productions:

$$\begin{array}{l} A_i \rightarrow N, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ N \rightarrow N, \\ A_i[j] \rightarrow \alpha, \quad \text{where } A_i \rightarrow \alpha \text{ is a production in } P_i, \\ \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m. \end{array}$$

From the construction it follows easily that  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P_i$  if and only if

$$A \in \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}, \quad A \xRightarrow{P'_1} \alpha_1 \xRightarrow{P'_1} \alpha_2 \xRightarrow{P'_1} \dots \xRightarrow{P'_1} \alpha_j \xRightarrow{P'_2} \alpha,$$

where  $\alpha_i \in \{A_1, \dots, A_n\}^*$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq j$ .

Therefore  $L(F) = L(F')$ .

Now let  $\bar{F} \triangleleft F(\mu)$  be an arbitrary interpretation. We will prove that there exists an  $\bar{F}' \triangleleft F'(\mu')$  such that  $L(\bar{F}) = L(\bar{F}')$  and therefore  $\mathcal{L}(F) \subseteq \mathcal{L}(F')$ . Let  $\bar{F} = (\{\bar{B}_1, \dots, \bar{B}_p\}, \{\bar{B}_1, \dots, \bar{B}_q\}, \bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_m, \bar{B}_p)$ . We construct  $\bar{F}' = (\bar{V}, \{\bar{B}_1, \dots, \bar{B}_q\}, \bar{P}'_1, \bar{P}'_2, \bar{B}_p) \triangleleft F'(\mu')$  such that  $L(\bar{F}') = L(\bar{F})$  as follows:

(i)  $\bar{V} = \{\bar{B}_1, \dots, \bar{B}_p\} \cup \{\bar{B}_i[j] : 1 \leq i \leq p, 1 \leq j \leq m\} \cup \{N\}$ .

(ii)  $\bar{P}'_1$  consists of the productions:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} B_i \rightarrow B_i[1], \\ B_i[j] \rightarrow B_i[j+1], \quad 1 \leq j < m, \\ B_i[m] \rightarrow N, \\ N \rightarrow N. \end{array} \right\} \quad 1 \leq i \leq p,$$

(iii)  $\bar{P}'_2$  consists of the productions:

$$\begin{array}{l} B_i \rightarrow N, \\ N \rightarrow N, \\ B_i[j] \rightarrow \beta, \quad \text{where } B_i \rightarrow \beta \text{ is a production in } \bar{P}_i, \\ \quad 1 \leq i \leq p, 1 \leq j \leq m. \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(iv)} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \mu'(A_k) = \mu(A_k), \\ \mu'(A_k[j]) = \{B_i[j] \mid B_i \in \mu(A_k)\}, \\ \mu'(N) = \{N\}. \end{array} \right\} \quad 1 \leq k \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m. \end{array}$$

As above it follows easily that  $L(\bar{F}) = L(\bar{F}')$ . That  $\bar{F}' \triangleleft F'(\mu')$  is as clear.

Now let  $G' \triangleleft F'(\eta')$  be an arbitrary interpretation. We will prove that there exists a  $G \triangleleft F(\eta)$  such that  $L(G') = L(G)$  and therefore  $\mathcal{L}(F') \subseteq \mathcal{L}(F)$  which will complete the proof of the theorem.

Let  $G' = (W', \Sigma, T'_1, T'_2, \dots, T'_m, S)$ . We construct  $G = (W, \Sigma, T_1, T_2, \dots, T_m, S)$  as follows:

$$(I) \quad W = \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq n} \eta'(A_i).$$

$$(II) \quad \eta = \eta'|_{\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}}.$$

(III)  $c \rightarrow \gamma$  is a production in  $T_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq m$  if and only if  $c \in W$ ,  $\gamma \in W^*$  and

$$c \xrightarrow{T'_1} \gamma_1 \xrightarrow{T'_1} \gamma_2 \xrightarrow{T'_1} \dots \xrightarrow{T'_1} \gamma_j \xrightarrow{T'_2} \gamma.$$

Note that  $W' = W \cup \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq n; 1 \leq j \leq m} \eta'(A_i[j])$  and  $\Sigma \subseteq W$ .

Since  $G' \triangleleft F(\eta')$  we get from Lemma 2.6 and (III) above that

$$(*) \quad \eta'^{-1}(c) \xrightarrow{P'_1} \eta'^{-1}(\gamma_1) \xrightarrow{P'_1} \dots \xrightarrow{P'_1} \eta'^{-1}(\gamma_j) \xrightarrow{P'_2} \eta'^{-1}(\gamma) \quad \text{if } c \rightarrow \gamma \text{ in } T_j.$$

Then  $\gamma_i \notin W^*$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq j$ . Therefore  $L(G') = L(G)$ . To prove that  $G \triangleleft F(\eta)$  we have to check points (i) through (v) in Definition 2.4. (i), (ii), (iii), and (v) follow from (II). To prove (iv) assume that  $c \rightarrow \gamma$  is in  $T_j$ ,  $A_i = \eta^{-1}(c)$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and  $\delta = \eta^{-1}(\gamma)$ . From (\*) above we get

$$A_i \xrightarrow{P_1} A_i[1] \xrightarrow{P_1} A_i[2] \xrightarrow{P_1} \dots \xrightarrow{P_1} A_i[j] \xrightarrow{P_2} \delta$$

which implies that  $A_i \rightarrow \delta$  is a production in  $P_j$  (in  $F$ ).  $\square$



**Theorem 3.12.** *Given an ETOL form  $F$  a form equivalent short ETOL form  $F'$  can be constructed.*

**Proof.** The proof is very similar to one in [1] for EOL forms. Let  $F = (V, \Sigma, P_1, \dots, P_m, S)$ . If  $\maxr(F) \leq 2$  then  $F$  is already short. If  $\maxr(F) > 2$  then it suffices to show that we can construct a form equivalent ETOL form  $\bar{F} = (\bar{V}, \Sigma, \bar{P}_1, \dots, \bar{P}_m, S)$  such that for some  $i$ ,  $\maxr(\bar{P}_i) + 1 = \maxr(P_i) = \maxr(F)$  and for  $j \neq i$   $\maxr(\bar{P}_j) = \max\{\maxr(P_j), 1\}$ . Now let  $\maxr(P_i) = \maxr(F) > 2$ . We construct  $\bar{F}$  as follows:

(I)  $\bar{V} = V \cup \{N\} \cup \{B^{(p)}, C^{(p)} : p \in P_i\}$ .

(II)  $\bar{P}_i$  consists of the productions:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow B^{(p)}, \\ B^{(p)} \rightarrow \alpha, \\ C^{(p)} \rightarrow N. \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{if } |\alpha| \leq 2 \text{ and } p: A \rightarrow \alpha \text{ is a} \\ \text{production in } P_i, \end{array}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow B^{(p)}C^{(p)} \\ B^{(p)} \rightarrow A_1 \cdots A_{k-1} \\ C^{(p)} \rightarrow A_k \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{if } \alpha = A_1 \cdots A_k \text{ for some } k > 2 \text{ and} \\ p: A \rightarrow \alpha \text{ is a production in } P_i. \end{array}$$

$$N \rightarrow N.$$

(III)  $\bar{P}_j = P_j \cup \{B^{(p)} \rightarrow N : p \in P_i\} \cup \{C^{(p)} \rightarrow N : p \in P_i\} \cup \{N \rightarrow N\}$  for  $j \neq i$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq m$ .

By using Lemma 2.8 with  $k_i = 2$  and  $k_j = 1$  for  $j \neq i$  we get that  $\mathcal{S}(F) = \mathcal{S}(\bar{F})$ . That  $\maxr(\bar{P}_i) = \maxr(P_i) - 1$  and  $\maxr(\bar{P}_j) = \max\{\maxr(P_j), 1\}$  for  $j \neq i$  is clear.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.13.** *Given an ETOL form  $F$  a form equivalent short 2-ETOL form  $F'$  can be constructed.*

**Proof.** Immediate from the proofs of Theorems 3.11 and 3.12.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.14.** *The binary 2-ETOL form  $F = (\{a, S\}, \{a\}, \{a \rightarrow S; S \rightarrow S\}, \{a \rightarrow S; S \rightarrow e|a|S|SS\}, S)$  is complete.*

**Proof.** Completeness follows from [2, Theorem 5.5]. Given an arbitrary ETOL form  $F'$  we can construct a form equivalent ETOL form  $F'_1$ , which is reduced and separated using [2, Lemma 4.1 and 4.2]. Then using the constructions occurring in the proofs of Theorems 3.11 and 3.12 we obtain a form equivalent 2-ETOL form  $F'_2$  which is reduced and binary.  $F'_2$  must then be an interpretation of  $F$ , so  $F$  is therefore a good ETOL form.  $\square$

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## References

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